CITY LIMITS

• • • By JOE AZBELL • • •

Juvenile Racial Unrest

A WHITE GIRL was knocked down, her dress torn and her books scattered by a group of Negro children recently. A group of white youths was bombed with bricks tossed by Negroes as their car stopped at a light signal. One of the rocks cut a gash in the head of one youth. A group of white youths tossed rotten potatoes at a car filled with Negroes. A hot rod, loaded to the bumper with teenagers zoomed through downtown Montgomery one night last week as a chorus boomed from the car: "We're looking for a big fat nigger!"

AZBELL

These occurrences are vivid illustrations of the current juvenile problem in Montgomery. As yet the racial pranks and vandalism acts have been much like Halloween assaults on a Chic Sale. But they are serious enough to cause Police Commissioner Clyde C. Sellers, Juvenile Court Judge Wiley Hill Jr. and local youth and social workers to ruffle their brows with justified concern.

The AF Wars Of 1954-55

THESE OFFICIALS recall vividly clashes of Montgomery teen-agers with Gunter and Maxwell airmen in 1954 and 1955. They have file histories that tell of carloads of airmen fighting with carloads of teen-agers. The clashes resulted from resentment of the invasion of the community's life by airmen. Gradually the conflicts intensified and became a major community problem.

How many of these pranks has occurred? Many more than the public knows of. The incidents normally are so minor — in many cases they involve only the tossing of a pebble — that police officials do not always receive reports. But Commissioner Sellers has received enough reports to consider the juvenile situation as a very delicate problem.

The commissioner — as did the court officials and social workers — emphasized there is no juvenile delinquency problem of alarming consequence in the community — at this moment. The repeated incidents however, could create a problem that would affect the lives of every man, woman and child in the community.

Parental Control Needed

AS A VETERAN youth official here said: "We have before us a situation involving youngsters who do not normally believe their acts of playing pranks are any more than an expression of a deep emotion. An adult normally and sensibly could see the stupidity and the danger of his actions in festering the community's racial situation. But a youngster might fester it with the complete belief he was only demonstrating his manhood and the beliefs of his region. It is imperative that parents take a hand in the matter of guiding and directing their children especially now."

Juvenile Court Judge Wiley Hill Jr., who is recognized as one of the veteran juvenile court officials in the South, said the problem in juvenile actions (not delinquency) is with "first timers."

"For the most part, the youngsters are expressing inner emotions with pranks. They feel that they must assert themselves in some manner in all of the conflict about us. It is a dangerous thing and a type of actions that could have untold affect on the life of the community."

He said there definitely does not exist a "really tough element" in the juvenile ranks as "existed 10 or 15 years ago." The new prolem lies "with the first timers."

The officials fear the "herd psychology" could lead to problems that would affect the overall pattern of racial relationships here in an adverse manner that "would not be easily detected." As a matter of record, the acts of careless youths could be imprinted as the acts of adults.

Water Balloons And Dirt Bombs

ALREADY IN the current situation arising from the boycott of the Montgomery City Lines by Negroes, both white and Negro youths have been guilty of repeated acts of petty vandalism that have drawn more taut the line of racial conflict. Explosion of water balloons and tossing of dirt bombs are major incidents of the past week.

How can these juveniles be controlled in their actions? Judge Hill gives this formula:

1. Parents should be aware where their children are going. They should check on their activities and make certain that they are not part of any "prank gangs."

2. Parents should counsel their children about the dangerous facets of the present situation and tell them of the tremendous dangers that lie in agitating an already explosive situation.

3. Parents should warn their children of association with other youngsters who are known to be over-enthusiastic in their thinking and actions.

4. Parents should be certain their children are receiving a proper diet of church guidance and home training that would act as a balance in their actions away from home.

"If there is a belief these acts of vandalism of juvenile actions are contained to the poorer families, it is certainly a misconception. The children of wealthy families in our best residential areas are equally in the problem. It is not contained in any basic economic class or any basic social class but the problem is in the general juvenile community," he said.

Small Incidents Are Dangerous

JUDGE HILL warned of contributing factors in the "prankism movement." He said most of the incidents involving wrong juvenile actions occur after 8 at night and there generally is an automobile involved. He said that the automobile doesn't necessarily always belong to the youths involved but it might be a car of a completely innocent youngster.

Commissioner Sellers appealed to the youngsters and their parents in this way:

"We are faced in our city with a tremendous problem involving a racial difficulty that may be with us for a long time. It is a time for cool actions and it is important that we do not have violence of any sort—even the smallest type.

"I believe that adults understand this and recognize the problem. We certainly have in our city the most wonderful group of youngsters of any city in the south. We are proud of them but there have been some incidents which have occurred that show there are some youths who are not using their best judgment in this current situation.

"I believe beyond any doubt that these youngsters, if told of the importance of maintaining even tempers and of abstaining from even the smallest act of playing pranks or even using abusive language toward the Negro race, would certainly cooperate. I have that much faith in our youngsters. I know they will understand the problem we are faced with if it is told to them in the right way by their parents."

Judge Hill expressed the same view: "It is important that parents educate their children — talk with them. We have a fine youth group here — it is only when they do not understand all of the problem that they allow themselves to become involved in wrong situations."

Actually Negroes outrank whites by large numbers in juvenile delinquency but Judge Hill said that so far more acts of whites in playing pranks than Negroes have been reported.

Alabama Boys Sentenced To Spend Nights In Jail

GUNTERSVILLE, Ala., May 25 (UP)—A circuit judge today solved the problem of parents who did not know where their sons were at night by sentencing six wayward teenagers to spend every night in jail for six months.

"I'll know where they are now," said Judge J. Stone in ordering the youths to check in with the county jailer every night at 7 p.m. They will be released in the morning at 6 a.m.

The six pleaded guilty to breakins at a number of summer cabins on the shores of the TVA lake here. The judge sentenced them to five years in prison, but reduced it to a probationary period.

But, he told the United Press, "I felt prison would harm them more than help, but simple probation would be too easy.

"These boys were high school seniors and smart alecks. They still had to be punished."

Judge Stone said "it's an experiment. We'll see how it works."

The six who must sleep behind bars are Neil Estes, 17; Charles Isbell, 18; R. B. Abercrombie, 20; James Reynolds, 17; Jimmy Shirley, 17; and Pete Whitman, 18.

The judge said he had heard no response yet from the parents. The boys came from "prominent" families, he added, and the families said they did not know what the boys did at night.

Judge Stone said he would have no objection to the boys getting a daytime job or continuing in school.

"But they better be at the jail at night," he added.

Alabama's Juvenile Courts

Advertiser 6-4-A

In Pittsburgh, a Juvenile Court Institute, the first of its type in this country, was conducted recently with 20 juvenile court judges from throughout the country in attendance.

As this institute indicates, more and more the juvenile court judge has become an important cog in the wheel of justice. Twenty-five years ago, the juvenile court was a court for the "reform school" type truants and wayward boys and girls whom parents could not control. Today the juvenile court has evolved into a social agency where the life of a child is taken into a judge's hand so that he might prescribe a formula for adjustment.

Unlike the judges of other courts, the juvenile court judge has to face the problem of determining the future of the young lawbreakers who appear before him. He must be a social authority in determining if the home environment has created the criminal attitude of the offender. He must study parents, school background, associations and even the medical and mental history of the youngster.

Montgomery, Ala.

In a court where a child is on trial, where the parent sits by watching there is bound to be emotionalism to which the juvenile court judge must become accustomed and hardened, and yet he must remain human enough to understand the problems of the youngster and help him.

Ltr. 6-7-56

Many counties in Alabama have no juvenile court. In fact, many counties use a probate judge as a juvenile court judge or a circuit judge in the same category as juvenile court judge. Well would it be if there were a study of the juvenile court organizations and procedures in Alabama and that trained men capable of performing the delicate task of dealing with young lawbreakers fill the juvenile court posts instead of politicians who happen to be elected to an office that has juvenile court as a secondary duty. A good man can perform wonders.

Because the juvenile judge is the guardian of the rights of the youngster and the good order of the community at large, he should be selected as carefully as a surgeon for an operation. On his ability often depends which fork of the road the erring youngster will take.

Negro Boy Sent To Work School For Gun Slaying

Advertiser

BIRMINGHAM, Oct. 5 (AP)—A 15-year-old Negro boy was committed to the Alabama Industrial School for Negro Boys at Mount Meigs yesterday for the fatal shooting of another Negro after a football game.

Juvenile Court Judge Talbot Ellis sent Frank Hill, Jr., to Mount Meigs for a term of six years, until he reaches the age of 21.

Det. Vernon Hart and Det. Sgt. J. L. Rhodes testified Hill shot and killed Eli Howard, 19, following a Negro football game at Legion Field. Hill and Howard were in a crowd leaving the stadium. No motive was advanced.

Four Negro Boys Enjoy Jail Fare

From The Commercial Appeal
Blytheville, Ark., Bureau

BLYTHEVILLE, Ark., July 27. —Four Negro boys, 10 to 12 years old, say they like it in the county jail because they get food," sheriff's deputies said Thursday.

The youths are awaiting juvenile court action. They were arrested last week and accused of stealing a car. Officers said the boys claim they are good except when they are hungry. They apparently didn't get enough to eat at home, deputies said.

All four were put in the city jail the night of July 25, but one escaped during the night by crawling through a small hole used for handing food to prisoners. He was captured a few days later.

Deputies think the boys would have a difficult task in trying to escape from the county jail if they wanted to. The feeding holes in the county jail are smaller than those in the city jail.

23 1956

3 Youngsters Who Shot Dad To Get Tests

Herald 12-A
Daily
23
Miami Fla.
Mon. 9-17-56

LOS ANGELES —(AP)— Clinical tests have been ordered for three youngsters who shot and killed their father while he slept.

Juvenile Judge Burdette J. Daniels said the results of the tests on Tommy, 10; Robert 9; and Richard Parker, 7, will be submitted to the court Oct. 3.

They told officers they shot their father, Thomas Richard Parker, 31, a steel worker, "so we could run the house like we wanted."

A fourth brother, Harry, 4, was not involved in the slaying, but he was detained by the court too, because of allegedly poor home supervision. Mrs. Parker, who is expecting their sixth child, did not attend the hearing.

For Juvenile Court

Post + Times Herald
Washington, D.C.
Wed. 1-4-56

Keep Same Judge, Advisers Urged

By Eve Edstrom
Staff Reporter

The chairman of the Juvenile Court Advisory Committee declared yesterday that the Juvenile Court judgeship should not be a "political job."

Belford V. Lawson further told the committee "we should not change judges in midstream."

He referred to the fact that Judge Edith M. Cockrill's six-year term expired last August. The post must be filled by a presidential appointee confirmed by the Senate.

Although Judge Cockrill wants to continue in the job, the District Bar Association's Judicial Selection Committee has forwarded the names of three potential successors to the Justice Department.

They are Orman W. Ketcham, Justice Department attorney; Leo Albert Huard, Georgetown law professor, and Olive G. Faircloth, an assistant corporation counsel.

Lawson's views against changing judges first were made known in a letter he wrote to Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare Marion B. Folsom.

In response to a question yesterday, he reiterated his views and said the letter represented his personal opinion. It was written, he said, after he had consulted with some members of the advisory body.

The advisory group took no official action in backing up the letter. In fact, it is known that several members resented the fact they were not consulted about it.

Another controversial point was raised yesterday when committee member Roscoe Evans asked Judge Cockrill whether she had done anything more about "integrating her staff."

Judge Cockrill's administrative assistant, Mrs. Robert E. Freer, noted the court had three Negro social work supervisors and three white supervisors. The Negro court officers supervise as many white workers as the white officers do, she said.

Lawson said he believed the "Negro community was totally ignorant of these facts."

However, Evans asked whether Negro workers supervised white children. Judge Cockrill said they did not.

Evans, who is principal of Shaw Junior High School, was appointed to consult with school officials on the need for pre-vocational training at the junior high school level here.

Judge Cockrill noted that many children coming before her court did not have the ability to absorb the academic education offered them. They drop out of school, can't get jobs and soon get into trouble with the law.

If the public schools began a dual program of pre-vocational training and academic education at an early age here, Judge Cockrill said, many children might be induced to remain in school.

10 Men in Uniform

Post + Times Herald
Washington, D.C.
Thurs. 8-2-56

Roving Police Patrol To Fight Youth Crime

By Alfred E. Lewis
Staff Reporter

A new roving police patrol, specially designed to prevent teenage disturbances, will be established this week by the Metropolitan Police Department.

The 10-man, uniformed patrol will operate afternoons and nights on a seven-day basis. It will work closely with the Youth Aid Division, which is already filing data on trouble-making teenage groups.

The new patrol is in addition to the planned four-person roving patrol—two policewomen and two plainclothesmen from the Youth Aid Division. The latter will work undercover and frequent nightspots and other places patronized by teenagers.

Among the background reasons for the establishment of the new reconnaissance unit is the fact police were alerted three times last Friday night with reports of possible youth disturbances.

A group of 20 to 25 youths were found in Fort Davis Park. Police reported the teenagers said they were there to witness a fight between groups from Maryland and the District. Four were arrested on charges of disorderly conduct and unlawful assembly.

The same night Park Police picked up 14 youths in Fort Dupont Park. They also told police they had assembled to see a fight.

A special, 14-man detachment of Sixth Precinct police, acting on a tip received Thursday of a fight scheduled for Friday night at the Takoma Recreation Center, patrolled the area from 7 p. m. to 10:30 p. m. No trouble developed.

Evening Star
Washington, D.C.
Sept. 10-23-54

Teacher and Boys Solve Major Juvenile Problem

By JOSEPH V. BYRNE

A junior high school teacher at Garnet Patterson School has solved a major juvenile problem in her neighborhood, and the boys involved apparently like it.

Miss Annabella Green, of 1628 Corcoran street N.W., became concerned about the actions of a large group of boys who gathered in front of a nearby grocery to carry bundles. She decided to take action.

The Safeway Store, located at Seventeenth and Corcoran streets, was constantly littered with trash. The boys were often rowdy, hindering customers and using bad language.

Last spring, a boy hit Richard L. Simmons, the store manager, over the head with a mallet. He was hospitalized. A few days later, another boy goaded a clerk into a fight and was flung through the store's front window. He was also hospitalized.

In Court Frequently

"It seems I was in juvenile court two and three times a week," Mr. Simmons said.

"The general situation made me feel that something had to be done," Miss Green said.

First, she visited the head of nearby Stead Playground. The playground director agreed to use his field house as a meeting place where the boys could register.

Next, Miss Green and the playground director sought out the geenral manager of Safeway Stores. He permitted her to put up a sign in the store saying the boys must register every Monday at 4 p.m. if they wanted to carry bundles for that week. The store cotnributed a long bench for the boys to sit on as each awaited his turn.

Finally, Miss Green enlisted the aid of No. 13 Police Precinct. The police issued orders to steer all boys without badges away from the store area.

Registration Grows

"Now, it was up to the boys," Miss Green said. "I was surprised when 10 registered the first week." It has grown to 16 so far. Several mothers volunteered both their sons and their help.

One woman volunteered to be "Carrier Mother." Her job is to give out badges, to be worn as proof of registering. She allots the boys the days and time they are to work and conducts weekly meetings.

At the meetings she reviews

MISS ANNABELLA GREEN
Solves a Problem

problems that need correcting and asks for complaints.

"This way the boys can air their differences," Miss Green said.

At one meeting, the boys were given a test. It contained questions like, "What would you do after the customer pays you?" "What would you say if asked what you charged?" "What would you do if you saw money on a table in a home?"

"Its purpose was to bring out the best in the boys," Miss Green said. "Rather than lecture, we wanted them to say what was right or wrong. Of course, they all got 100 per cent. We wrangled with them until they got the right answers."

Boys Get Compliments

Now, according to Mr. Simmons, scarcely a day goes by that the boys aren't complimented by the customers. Recently the Juvenile Squad and the District Junior Police sent representatives to ask how it was done.

Recently a representative of Safeway Stores described the set-up before the Federation of Civil Associations. The group voted to support a program to curb delinquency by giving boys jobs carrying groceries.

Miss Green, who "doesn't like publicity," agreed to tell her story only so others in a similar situation can take action.

"Believe me, it was thrilling working with those boys," she said. "It seemed they were just waiting for someone to take an interest in them.

"Maybe if we stop talking and start doing, 'juvenile' might be a beautful word, as it should."

23 1956

FLORIDA

Police Athletic Unit Formed for Negroes

Herald - Fri 8-31-56

Miami Fla.

Combating juvenile delinquency within the Negro race and helping youngsters who don't have recreation facilities are the objects of the newly chartered Police Athletic League.

DAVIS

Though the league, a non-profit organization, is short on equipment and even furniture for the office, it hopes to have its first football practice for youngsters Tuesday.

"We want to make sure we attract youngsters who don't have anywhere else to go for recreation," Joseph W. Davis, president, said. "So we insist that anyone wanting to join must not be a member of any other recreational organization."

Pleading for support from merchants and businessmen, Davis, who is a Miami police patrolman said, "If they get behind us, the program will be a big success."

Boys and girls between the ages of 7 and 17 can apply at the offices of the league located in the police precinct headquarters at 407 NW 11th St. at any time of the day or night.

Many of the league's plans for a year around athletic program are still in the organizational stage.

Davis said the youths will compete against other groups "if a large enough number of youngsters turn out."

Negro police officers and other volunteers are donating their time to the program. Sports activities will be supervised at all times.

23 1956

GENERAL

JUVENILE DELIQUENCY

BY the NNPA News Service

While some 385,000 children were handled by the children's courts of the county in 1952, there were in the same year more than a million children handled by the police.

In fact, most children eventually appearing in children's court are first handled by the police.

This makes the police officer's role important and raises a number of questions regarding the effectiveness with which law-enforcement officers meet their responsibility. Some of these questions are:

1. Is special attention being given to the handling of an impressionable child's first brush with the law?

2. What are the children's attitudes toward policemen?

3. Do officers have understanding and training to cope with problems involved in the constructive handling of children and is special training for them necessary?

Through a special juvenile delinquency project and the Children's Bureau a report called, "Police Service for Juveniles" was published in 1954. This report was prepared with the aid of outstanding people in the field.

Three statements from that report may throw some light on answers to questions on how effective the police do their job in handling juvenile delinquents. The section on the philosophy of juvenile police work follows:

"What should a police officer's aim be in working with these children? Since the police officer is an agent of the community, the same question might be put as: What is society's aim in regard to these children?

"During the past fifty years every state has passed laws that show clearly that the aim of our judicial and executive authorities in their treatment of delinquent children is to protect them and rehabilitate them rather than to punish them.

"These laws reflect society's belief that since children are not adults, they cannot and should not be held accountable for their behavior in the same way that adults are.

" 'The fundamental idea of the law,' stated the Chicago Bar Association committee that successfully fought the passage of the first state juvenile court law in this country, 'is that the state must step in and exercise guardianship over a child found under such adverse social or individual conditions as develop crime.

" 'It proposes a plan whereby he may be treated, not as a criminal, or legally charged with a crime, but is a ward of the state, to receive practically the care, custody, and discipline that are accorded the neglected and dependent child....'

"The passage of that law in Illinois in 1899 was a milestone in the history of social legislation. Since that time juvenile courts established throughout the conutry have tried with varying degrees of success to implement the philosophy of these state laws by setting up procedures and offering services that will help dependent and delinquent children to grow into useful citizens.

"It seems evident, then, that if the will of the people as expressed in our laws is to be honored, police procedure governing the treatment of children should carry out the philosophy of protection and rehabilitation. Otherwise the entire effort of the community to redeem and protect the youth may be wrecked and nullified at the outset."

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

Youth Crime, Vandalism Mounting Steadily On Global Scale Following World War II

By WATSON SIMS
AP Staff Writer

In England they're "Teddy boys." In Russia they're "stilyags." Communist Hungary calls them "spivs." To the Argentine they're "patotas." And Japan knows them as the "apuray."

They are the problem children of the world; the juvenile delinguent and members of youth gangs. And in the past 10 years almost every nation in the world has had to find a word for them.

Youthful crime and vandalism have increased on a global scale since the end of World War II. It is a trend to which few exceptions were found in an Associated Press survey covering more than a dozen nations on both sides of the Iron Curtain.

JAPANESE PROBLEMS

Japanese police say the juvenile crime rate is up five times over its prewar peak. Communist Poland says it has become "a distressing social plague." Both free and Communist Germany acknowledge it has become a serious national problem.

Increased concern also was found in England, Russia, Argentina, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Bulgaria, India and Romania. Only in France and Brazil was juvenile delinquency considered either a declining or relatively minor problem.

The behavior through which the youth of the world is distressing its elders looks pretty much the same in any language. It may involve crime, even murder. But much more often it's vandalism, rowdiness or banding together for mischievous purposes.

YOUTH GANGS

Youth gangs, often distinguished by extremes of dress, unique haircuts or other affectations, have become an old story in England, Argentina, Germany and the satellite nations.

The bands of young toughs who stand on street corners insulting women and bullying passers-by, with occasional forays into crime or gang fights, have become part of the big city scenery on at least three continents.

In Hungary, the Trade Union daily Nepszava has charged that youth gangs are endangering public safety and morality. They also are blamed in connection with a 900 per cent increase in juvenile sex crimes in Austria over the past nine years.

Even down on the collective farm, postwar youth seems to be getting into more trouble. The Communist youth organization of Poland complained recently that more and more young farm people are guilty of excessive drinking, immorality and wanton destruction of state property.

U.S. 'CREDITED'

One outstanding aspect of the survey was the inclination of many nations to feel that juvenile delinquency, particularly where it involves youth gangs, is essentially an American invention.

Among Communist nations, this contention is part of the official propaganda line. But the feeling also crops up in non-Communist nations, tracing most often to America's long domination of the world's motion picture field.

In Stuttgart, West Germany police reported that leaders of a youth gang specializing in burglary "enforced discipline after the manner of villains in American Wild West films."

Authorities in both England and Argentina note that the language of youth gangs seems to have been influenced by American movies.

In Communist nations, where the showing of movies is regulated by the government, the usual line is to blame juvenile delinquency on jazz, jitterbug dancing and smuggled American comic books.

SAME EXPLANATIONS

Aside from the tendency to blame other cultures, the study of juvenile delinquency shows that explanations are pretty much the same in all nations — except for special cases connected with the war.

In Japan, for example, an education official says the nation's defeat produced "a mental torpor among our people which made it easy for moral anarchy to take over."

The worst aspect of the occupation, this official contended, was that it forced the Japanese to stop worshiping their emperor and ancestors. "From that point," he said, "it was only a step for the children to refuse to obey their parent and authorities."

German authorities noted that girls became obsessed with the idea of marrying servicemen and during the occupation many young going to America. This brought new resentment to brothers and former sweethearts, already disillusioned by the nation's defeat. Sometimes the young men turned to organized bands specializing in rape, robbery and even murder.

Most often, however, the rise in juvenile crime was explained in terms of economic pressures. Crowded housing conditions and an increase in slum existence were blamed by authorities in several countries.

Another broad point covered by the survey was the question of what is being done, or should be done, to combat the rise in delinquency. The answers ran the gamut, from "beat them" to "understand them."

In Germany, one finds strong sentiment for cracking down with stern disciplinary measures. Many Germans feel the restoration of corporal punishment in schools would help. German schoolmasters lost the authority to whip pupils after World War II.

In France, a special judicial system was set up after the war to handle cases involving persons 18 or younger. This court has placed special emphasis on counseling and rehabilitation, rather than punishment. For the past several years, the number of cases involving prison or reformatory sentences has declined.

GROUP NATURE

In England, as in America, the emphasis has been on interesting youth gangs and other potential delinquents in constructive activities, particularly of a group nature. The Teddy boy cult is generally regarded as an outlet for socially insecure youngsters "who feel the need to belong." Rehabilitation efforts are aimed at helping to fill this need.

Possibly because they seek to blame the whole business on America and the West, Communist campaigns against juvenile delinquency, have been considerably more angry than those of other nations.

"Our spivs and hooligans should be put in concentration camps where they should get only bread and water for six months," a Hungarian newspaper cried recently.

Both in Moscow and in the satellite nations, Communist youth leagues have been upbraided by the party elders for not whipping their members into line through both physical and ideological chastisement.

Making Life Make Sense

Post & Times Herald

Rights of Parents

Wash. D.C. 6-17-56 P.5-E

By Harry and Bonaro Overstreet

LAST WEEK the teen-agers had their say. This week it is the parents' turn. The reader will remember that we are quoting the findings of the six meetings between Tampa parents and their teen-age girls and boys.

The parents first set down nine character-qualities which they felt that their children should exhibit ("What we have a right to expect from our teen-agers".)

1. **Temperance.**
2. **Frugality.**
3. **Honesty.**
4. **Frankness.**
5. **Trust.**
6. **Chastity.**
7. **Humility.**
8. **Industry.**
9. **Sincerity.**

Then, like their children, they asked for "a measure of privacy."

Also, like their children, they felt (11) that family affairs should be kept within the family and (12) that there should be an effort on the teen-ager's part to try to understand the parents' point of view.

LIKEWISE, THEY asked (3) for understanding of democratic principles and procedures. They are careful to define democratic principles and procedures as involving degrees of freedom and the provision of the veto.

And (14) they expected their children to do "the best possible with the educational opportunity presented."

It is hard, here, to know whether the parents were chiefly talking about what they expected of their children or of themselves or of both. Doubtless what they meant was that all of these are good ways of life for children and for parents. This would seem to us to make sense.

This is fairly obvious in the rights which followed—up to 26, where the list ends.

15. **Contributing to family activities.**
16. **A pleasing attitude.**
17. **Sharing in family goals.**
18. **Practice of good manners.**
19. **Being an asset, not a liability (a fair share of home responsibilities).**
20. **Understanding and continuing to practice good religious and ethical training.**
21. **Honor.**
23. **Obedience.**
24. **Appreciation when you have done your best.**
25. **Patience to hear you out before going off on a tangent.**
26. **Respect at least equal to that given outside the home.**

IN THE TWO LISTS there are certain identical claims worth noting. Both of them—parents and adolescents—want privacy (that seems quite fundamental: it is a kind of recognition of the individual's right to be himself); honesty, frankness and trust (without these there is no dependable structure of life); democratic principles and procedures (the consent of the governed and the willingness of the governors to seek for consent); encouragement for education (it is significant that both parents and teen-agers are all out for education); understanding of the other's point of view (which is a way of thinking with others as you would have others think with you); a pleasing attitude (apparently neither adolescents nor parents enjoy the "grumpy" person); good manners (the lubricant of life); love and affection (the dynamic of life), and being an asset instead of a liability (counting for something).

If we confine ourselves merely to the agreements, we have in these two lists a significant declaration of what life should be. What is even more important is to know that these basic agreements were hammered out by thinking together.

These students and parents of the Hillsborough High School, Tampa, and their family-life teacher, Dale Womble, should be congratulated not only on clearing up a lot of confusion about parents and adolescents but on describing clearly and emphatically what are the foundations for a happy and responsible life.

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MAIL OFFER: The Overstreets' new booklet, "How To Stay Alive as Long as You Live," will help you gain new insights. For a copy, send 25 cents (coin only) and a stamped, self-addressed envelope to "Making Life Make Sense," care of National Newspaper Syndicate, 326 West Madison ave., Chicago 6, Ill.

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

Daily World

Wed. 12-5-56

BY THE UNPA NEWS SERVICE

Organizations and individuals interested in curbing juvenile delinquency are greatly concerned with the widespread production, distribution, and sale of pornographic (smutty) materials.

The fact that a large segment of the American people have no understanding or knowledge of the existence of this material so easily available is also a source of concern.

Atlanta, Ga.

Great progress has been made in the elimination of crime and horror comic books from the American scene through action by the comic book industry as well as local citizens groups, but little attention has been given to the field of smutty literature.

23 P.3

No group—prior to the Senate Judiciary Juvenile Delinquency Investigating subcommittee, headed by Senator Estes Kefauver, of Tennessee—had ever investigated and studied solely this type of degrading material.

Police departments, the FBI, the Post Office Department, and the customs service had been aware of the evil for years.

Due to the minor nature of the offense ,as it was almost universally considered on the local level, police departments took very little action to stop the traffic.

The FBI was powerless to stop the traffic unless the shipments were made across state lines by express or common carrier.

Only the Post Office and custom service had adequate measures with which to deal with the sellers of pornography. But these agencies were often stymied by a lack of understanding of the problem by the courts and the light sentences meted out in most cases.

Pornography, too, was most often thought of as having only adult appeal and considered mostly a nuisance that was shown only at stag parties.

Under these conditions the traffic in pornography was allowed to grow into a $500 million a year racket embracing virtually every conceivable media of communication.

There were great numbers of debased and unscrupulous persons who turned to this field to garner profits by appealing to warped personalities and youth with their lack of knowledge and curiosity.

23 1956

EDUCATOR HITS POPULAR IDEAS ON DELINQUENCY

Daily Tribune
Chicago, Ill.
Jan. 4-3-56

Real progress in solving juvenile delinquency will not be made until the public's attitude is changed from thinking in punitive terms to constructive terms, Edward H. Stullken, principal of Montefiore Special school, told a luncheon of the City club yesterday.

"The delinquency problem is less likely than any other problem to respond to the purely negative measures of punishment," Stullken said.

Outlines Misconceptions

Stullken outlined several "popular misconceptions" regarding juvenile delinquency. They included advocacy of punishment for parents for acts committed by their children, punishment of juveniles as a cure, and feasibility of removing a delinquent from his community.

Parents should be made aware of their responsibilities, Stullken said, but he thought it questionable whether mere punishment of parents would accomplish much.

Regarding punishment as a curl, he said most juvenile delinquents already have suffered a "great deal" of physical punishment so that further punishment as a cure is of doubtful value.

Always New Cases

Stullken declared there always will be new cases of delinquency no matter how many delinquents are removed from a community, unless that community removes the causes of delinquency.

"Too often citizens want the benefits of reform without going thru the agony and work of reforming themselves and the neighborhood," he said.

BRUTALITY CHARGED AT JUVENILE SCHOOL

Commercial Appeal

Beatings By Two On Staff In Mississippi Reported At Investigation

Jrv. 11-30-56

By KENNETH TOLER
Staff Writer

Memphis, Tenn.,

COLUMBIA, Miss., Nov. 29.—Brutality bordering on sadism at the Columbia Training School for delinquent white juveniles was disclosed Thursday before the Mississippi Legislative Investigating Committee in a special hearing.

The charges were made by 10 teenage inmates after six staff members admitted knowledge of "unreasonable beatings" by at least two others of the staff of the state-supported institution.

Supports Reports

Senator Stanton Hall of Hattiesburg, chairman of the committee who conducted the inquiry, said the testimony "fully" supported reports by the Marion County Grand Jury of "alleged brutalities or mistreatment of inmates of the school."

The committee came here Thursday morning after receiving the Grand Jury report at Jackson Wednesday.

Members conducting the hearing were Mr. Hall, Senator Mayes McGhee of Meadville and Representative Russell Fox of Claiborne County. They said the testimony will be presented to the full committee and recommendations made to the trustees of the institution and Gov. J. P. Coleman.

Stribling Not Involved

None of the testimony involved R. C. Stribling, superintendent of the school since July, in the brutalities.

Mr. Stribling was not at the school when the committee arrived here, but returned later in the day from a trip to Meridian.

Mr. Stribling, former senator from Neshoba County, recommended for the post by Governor Coleman, said he welcomed the investigation.

"The school is wide open for anyone to check," he said. "There is not any person who frowns on mistreatment of children more than I and such conditions will not be tolerated here."

Superintendent Stribling said none of he children had complained to him, although one testified before the committee that he had reported a severe beating by a "cottage parent" and had showed Mr. Stribling marks resulting from the beating.

Commercial Appeal

May Have Urged Changes

Following the testimony, the committee members conferred informally with Mr. Stribling. It was believed they suggested certain immediate personnel changes be made.

P.A

A 10-year-old Columbus, Miss., boy, who said he wanted to return to his mother and stepfather, said the "parent" of his cottage whipped him until he was black and blue. He said he showed the marks to Mr. Stribling and another staff member.

A man and his wife are in charge of each "cottage" on the 2,000-acre training school. They are commonly referred to as "cottage parents."

The child said he was whipped because another inmate reported he planned to run away. He said he had meant the remark as a joke.

Was Runaway

The child said the cottage parent woke him up at night to give him the beating. He said he was struck 62 times with a wodden paddle. He said he was sent to the school because he continually ran away from a Columbus orphanage where he had been placed by his parents.

A 13-year-old Grenada, Miss., boy also told the committee that he had been brutally whipped. He also verified the 62 blows dealt the 10-year-old and said he saw the marks of the beating.

The Grenada youth said many of the boys had run away from the school because of unreasonable and unjustified beatings.

That was verified by the Marion County Grand Jury which found five runaways in jail here whose statements prompted the jury in urging the legislative investigation.

The five boys were placed in jail after they ran away from the training school and stole several automobiles. That action occurred because of inability of the school officials to handle them and was taken after onferring with Marion County officials.

Sixth In Hospital

The five youths this week were released by the Youth Court and indicted for car theft in Circuit Court. Each was given a two-year probationary prison sentence after pleading guilty. Three are from the Greenville area and the others from the Gulf Coast.

A sixth boy from Tupelo, also involved, is in a Jackson hospital.

On 18-year-old inmate from Macon told the committee he was struck 140 times by another "cottage parent" because he was reported for cursing the official and his wife. He said the cursing was not in their presence and was reported by another inmate. He said he was struck over the head, back and legs.

Others testified of beatings in the field while at work and one while he was on a road.

No Recreation

Inmates of the institution range in age from 10 to 20. They are confined by youth courts for law violations. There are 114 boys and 32 girls in the institution. They have no recreational building or chapel and only a limited vocational program. They attend school part time and work in the fields.

The buildings of the institution are run down since little repair has been made since the institution was established during the first administration of the late Gov. Theo. G. Bilbo in 1917.

Committee members said Thursday the institution either needs to be fixed up or abolished. Trustees of the school plan to meet here next Thursday to investigate brutality reports.

23 1956

DELINQUENCY LAID TO COMPLEX CAUSE

Times P.25-C

Jersey Report Urges Caution in Blaming the Parents — Community Action Asked

Fri. 5-25-56

By GEORGE CABLE WRIGHT

Special to The New York Times.

TRENTON, May 24—International tensions, social and economic conditions in the nation and community environment were cited today as factors contributing to the spread of juvenile delinquency.

Such factors, according to a report submitted to Governor Robert B. Meyner and the Legislature, have served to intensify the problem just as have parental negligence and mental, emotional and physical disturbances within some children.

The report is the result of a two-year survey by the State Juvenile Delinquency Study Commission. It is confined to the preventive aspect of the delinquency problem. The commission has indicated its intention to fine by netx year an additional report covering the "treatment side."

To halt delinquency the group recommended the establishment of active juvenile aid and advisory agencies in every one of the state's 567 municipalities. It urged substantial wage increases for case workers in the fields of welfare and family service and a sizeable expansion of in-patient hospital facilities for emotionally disutrbed youngsters.

The report called for additional vocational high schools and expanded opportunities for in-school training in the various trades.

The report noted that in two years the Legislature had considered several bills on parental responsibility.

In the "light of this emotional heat," the report continued, "the lack of clear and objective evidence as to the effects of holding parents responsible for the torts of their children stands out in bold relief. Against this background, this commission recomments that the Legislature approach the issue of parental responsibility calmly and with great caution."

Community Responsibility

Progress in preventing delinquency, the report said, is "in large part" dependent on the degree to which parents "can and will assume their proper obligations." Yet, it added, the community "must share these duties with the family and act through its agents—the church, the school, the social agency, the community center, and organized citizens groupsot— extend to youth more opportunities for exercising their rights while learning to assume their responsibilities."

The twelve-member commission is headed by State Senator Frank W. Shershin, Republican of Passaic County

23 1956

NEW YORK

JUVENILES' RIGHTS REPORTED EVADED

Times Herald
New York

Experts Debate Courts' Role in Making Decisions in Delinquency Cases

Sat. 4-14-56

Juvenil edelinquency experts disagreed sharply yesterday on whether the disposition of cases outside the courtroom violated a child's constitutional rights.

They criticized and defended the use of the "implied threat" of the court's authority in many instances by such non-judicial personnel as probation officers and social workers. This aspect was mishandled, espacially in rural areas, it was said.

In cases such as these, a probation officer handles the problem without recourse to an official court hearing after a child has acknowledged a delinquent act and his parents have waived rights in the matter.

Judge Harold M. Fields of the Marion County Juveline Court, Indianapolis, contended that such practices ignored several legal rights of the children. He deprecated decisions given by lay persons. He said they exercised a judicial function in determining mixed questions of fact and law as to whether a child was a delinquent.

Judge Fields asserted there should be no findings without "proper legal hearing." He deplored the "unofficial" handling of delinquents on the ground that it was enforced by the implied threat of official action if the child and his parents did not voluntarily cooperate.

He declared that such proceedings involved possible "double jeopardy," lack of specific charges, the failure to provide counsel, the use of improper evidence and the deprivation of the right of appeal.

Individual Rights Stressed

The jurist said that informality" dispensed with the safeguards of individual rights. He held that any deviation from the legal statutes not only weakened those rights but brought disrepute to juvenile courts and made treatment more difficult.

His views highlighted a round-table discussion at a national-regional conference on crime and delinquency in the Statler Hotel. The conference was sponsored by the National Probation and Parole Association, the Middle Atlantic State Conference of Correction and the New York State Conference of Probation.

Opposing this concept, Tully McCrea, consultant to the National Probation and Parole Association, maintained that court proceedings for juvenile delinquents interfered with the child's rehabilitation. Frequently, he added the child was needlessly stigmatized and damaged psychologically in the court processes.

Further, he continued, the child often was "victimized" by his own parents, who looked upon him as a bad child. He suggested the need for both judicial and non-judicial handling depending upon the particular situation.

When a juvenile is sentenced to training school, he frequently identifies himself with the criminal element of the community, Mr. McCrea observed.

William H. Sheridan, of the Division of Juvenile Delinquency Service in the Federal Department of Health, Education and Welfare, supported Judge Fields' contention that extra legal proceedings tended to violate children's constitutional rights. He advocated further that fingerprints and photographs of delinquent children be taken.

The Rev. Swithun Bowers, of the School of Social Welfare, St. Patrick's College, Ottawa, spoke on religion in social work at a luncheon of 300 conferees.

Minister Slain By Son

Newark Observer
Sun. 9-25-56

ALBANY, N. Y., Sept. 24 (AP)—A freckle-faced, 13-year-old son of a minister was held today in the fatal shooting of his father.

A psychiatric examination was ordered for Rancy Snyder after his arraignment in Children's Court on a charge of juvenile delinquency.

Raleigh N.C.
Sat. 9-29-56

Police said a bullet from a rifle held by the fair-haired boy felled the Rev. Maurice Snyder, 41, Saturday after the minister had questioned him about failure to mow the lawn at their home in suburban Colonie. The boy's attorney maintained that the .22 caliber rifle, which the father had given his son this summer, was discharged accidentally.

The consistory, or governing body, of the Boght Corners Reformed Church, where the father was pastor, sent a statement to Children's Court, saying that it would attest to Rancy's character. He "has always been a normal boy with excellent habits," the statement said.

The Rev. Mr. Snyder was shot in Rancy's room. He died yesterday. The boy's attorney said Rancy was playing with the rifle and was uncertain as to how it went off. The attorney said Rancy and his father were "very close."

HELD IN SLAYING OF FATHER — Rancy Snyder, 13, is escorted by a police officer to court at Albany, N. Y., where he was held on a juvenile delinquency charge in connection with the death of the Rev. Maurcie Snyder, 41. Snyder was shot fatally in his son's room Saturday with a bullet from a 22-calibre rifle. (AP Wirephoto).

Teachers Report Rise in Violence

World-Telegram
Wed. 10-17-56

Ask Law Change To Bar Students Guilty of Disorder

By JACOB JACOWITZ,
Editor, School Page.

Disorder and violence, including attacks on teachers, have increased to such an extent in city high schools that many teachers believe persistent offenders should be suspended—even if the compulsory school-age law must be amended.

This is revealed in a heretofore confidential report prepared by a committee of the AFL-CIO Teachers Guild after a school - by - school survey. Teachers in 22 of the city's 80-odd vocational and academic high schools answered questions put by the committee.

The teachers not only listed many instances of violence by pupils, but made recommendations for remedying the situation.

The reported acts of violence included attacks on pupils in 16 schools, 11 attempts to molest girls and attacks on teachers in at least one instance in each of 18 schools. Fires started in trash baskets were cited.

The most common complaint among teachers was that they were not backed by their supervisors when they attempted to correct cases of gross misconduct. Supervisors, it was said by some, prefer the "psychological approach" to punishment in such cases.

Most teachers urged "drastic crackdown" on the more serious offenders and possible change in the law so that it would no longer require students under 17 to remain in school regardless of circumstances.

Herald Tribune—United Press

BEATEN TEACHER AND STUDENT—High School of Commerce teacher Sidney Reiser (left), twenty-nine, and student Andrew Egan, seventeen, at Police station yesterday after they were beaten up by two teen-agers who invaded the school. Two other teachers were also attacked.

2 Enter School, Beat Boy, 3 Teachers

Herald Thurs. 11-18-56 P. 3

Fleeing Teen-Age Invaders Seized Outside by Police

Miami, Fla.

Two youths invaded the High School of Commerce yesterday and beat three teachers and a student monitor. Then the assailants, chased by their victims and other students and teachers, tried to flee. But police near by saw the commotion outside the building at 153 W. 65th St. and captured them.

Sidney Reiser, a twenty-nine-year-old social studies teacher, suffered bruises and severe eye enjuries in the attack. Three stitches were required to close a wound under his right eye.

The student, Andrew Egan, a seventeen-year-old senior, of 436 E. 69th St., suffered a cut right eyelid. Both were released after treatment at Roosevelt Hospital. The other teachers were not injured.

Flee From Teachers

Police gave this account of the incident:

The Egan youth was a monitor in the basement cafeteria while 600 of the school's 2,800 students were having lunch. At 1:15 p. m. he met the two hoodlums in a hallway outside, and one of them snapped, "What are you looking at?"

Then one of the toughs began to punch the Egan boy, and Mr. Reiser, who was on duty as a lunchroom supervisor, ran to break it up. The other rowdy took on Mr. Reiser.

When two other teachers saw the disorder and bounded towards it, the hoodlums fled.

Seized by Patrolmen

While they were running, an English teacher, Herbert Balish, thirty-seven, of 66-04 11th St., Forest Hills, Queens, caught up with them. They spun around, pummeled him, and broke away. The same thing happened to Herman Wolfe, a gymnasium teacher, of 165 W. 191st St., when he reached them.

The intruders, pursued by other teachers and students, made it to the street. But Patrolmen Gerald Stack and Howard Martin, who were in a radio car outside, seized them.

Police identified the attackers as Robert Plains, nineteen, a shipper and packer, of 515 W. 157th St., and Kenneth Gray, sixteen, a delivery boy, of 526 W. 154th St. Booked on charges of felonious assault and loitering, they were held for a hearing today in Adolescents Court.

No Weapons Used

Detectives quoted the youths as saying they went to the school to "protect" Plains' seventeen-year-old girl friend. They said the girl had received a one-day suspension Tuesday for fighting with another girl. But Vincent McGarrett, school principal, said he has no record of any such incident, although the girl is a student at the school.

Mr. Reiser, who lievs at 3472 Knox Place, the Bronx, and has been with the school two years, said no weapons were used.

23 1956

NORTH CAROLINA

Boy, 11, chooses life in reformatory, its clean beds, playground, over home

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.
Apr. 1-21-56

RALEIGH, N.C. — (ANP) — An 11-year-old, who prefers life in the detention home to life at his own home in one of Raleigh's blight areas, has proved a puzzling problem for Wake County Domestic Court officials during the past several months.

At present Raymond is at the county detention home, where he seems to be enjoying himself thoroughly. But his real ambition is to get admitted to the training school for delinquent boys — and it seems that he will soon get his way.

Court authorities say that Raymond was brought to Raleigh about two years ago by his grandmother from New York, where his mother had apparently been unable to care for him and his brother.

* * *

RAYMOND LIVED in Raleigh's Fourth Ward and soon took up with two older boys who have already made it to the training school.

During the summer, the boys were picked up numerous times for breaking and entering and stealing. But authorities estimated that all their thefts netted them only about $5 worth of merchandise.

Finally, the two older boys were committed to the school. Raymond then set about doing everything he could to join them there. But court case workers thought him too young and sent him back home.

At his old home, Raymond slept and lived in one dingy room with his brother and grandmother. Toilet facilities were located a block away. The family's economic status was very low.

* * *

RAYMOND CONTINUED his errant ways and was finally sent to the detention home, where he spent nearly two happy months.

He particularly enjoyed being able to take showers, to sleep in a clean bed and to eat three good meals a day. He also liked to play on the small outdoor basketball court.

Raymond was farmed out to live with a woman in Louisburg who cares for such children. He attended school for one day and then ran away from his new home, making his way back to the detention home.

* * *

RAYMOND WAS TESTED by a clinical psychologist who found the boy "is above average in self and social confidence — but that school and community relations are better than his family relations."

The psychologist's report said the Training School "will be able to provide some special help" for Raymond.

Daily Journal
Thurs. 8-9-56
Clinton, Ga.
P. 1

23
N C

WEAPONS OF "WAYWARD" YOUTH — E. L. Crummie, center, chief of the Clinton Police Department, displays a variety of weapons collected from wayward youth in his community. He appeared at A & T College as a guest lecturer at the Summer School Workshop, speaking on "Juvenile Delinquency." Looking on are: A. A. Dupre, Left, Clinton school principal and workshop consultant and Miss Vivian Hayes, local school teacher, a student at the Summer Session.

23 1956

OKLAHOMA

Teen Town is Lauded by County Juvenile Officer

Eagle Thurs. 7-19-56 Tulsa, Okla.

By Bill Dillard
Of The Eagle Staff

Coleridge T. Gross, county juvenile officer, praised the progress Teen Town, Inc., has made since a group of North Tulsa parents and civic leaders met on four different occasions to protest the teen ager's activities.

P-1-a

Thurs. 7-19-56

Gross explained that Teen Town was a major item for investigation when he took office in December, 1954, but added that the park program is in better condition today as a whole than it has been in many years.

"Teen Town is gradually becoming an organization to which teen agers can attend without having their parents worry," he said, "I hope the youngsters will continue to make progress."

The teen age club which has headquarters at Lincoln Park Recreation center, was under fire because parents, teachers, and other civic leaders did not believe the weekly dances given by the organization was being operated properly.

"I have always and still maintain that Teen Town should be an organization with diversified activities. pointed out Gross." "Dancing should not be the only entertainment provided for youth, because there are some teen agers who can't dance. I'd like to see ping pong tables, pool tables, and other such activities incorporated into the organization. Maybe this would keep many youngsters out of pool halls and off the street."

Gross said the last time he visited a Teen Town dance, he discovered many major improvements. Lighting was better; a full-time chaperone has been employed; police protection has been increased; junior high and senior high school students are not permitted at the same dance, and persons not attending school are not allowed in the dance.

Hopes Progress Continues

"I hope Teen Town continues its progress," concluded Gross, "for this organization has great potential for the entertainment of our teenagers."

Those protesting said the Friday night dances were improperly supervised by adults; lighting was poor; junior and senior high school students were allowed to participate together; affairs were ending at too late an hour for students; persons no longer in school were being allowed to attend the dances; membership cards were not acknowledged.

Gross said many juvenile delinquent cases registered in his office were indirectly attributed to Teen Town. Parents were asking that Teen Town be closed.

Indirectly Responsible

"I say Teen Town was 'indirectly' responsible because juvenile cases occurred at school or on the street following a Teen Town activity." said Gross, "What started out as a wholesome youth project was turning into an organization breeding delinquents."

Coleridge T. Gross

23 1956

PENNSYLVANIA

Juvenile Court Jam 'Frees' 1000 Delinquents in Phila.

Inquirer Sat. Fri. 6-22-56 P. 1

Judge Sifts Reasons for Big Backlog

Philadelphia

More than 1000 youngsters charged with a wide range of juvenile delinquencies are roaming the streets or sitting in detention because of a huge log jam in the Juvenile Division of Municipal Court. Pa.

President Judge Hazel H. Brown yesterday blamed the increase in juvenile gangland activities for the bogging down of the court's activities.

As contributing reasons she cited insufficient personnel and lack of an adequate number of institutions to which juveniles could be sent by the court.

1200 CASES ESTIMATED

Grumbling lawyers, some waiting more than six months to have a case heard, put the backlog at between 1200 and 1500 cases and blamed the reviewing setup at the Youth Study Center for much of the delay.

Judge Brown said that during May alone the preliminary interviewer at the Youth Study Center submitted 800 hold-for-court cases to be tried.

Children held in detention are given priority listings for court. This priority creates a pileup of cases where children are released in custody of their parents until trial. Three months is the average waiting period for these cases but the time may be longer, depending on the priority list.

PERSONNEL HELD FACTOR

While stressing juvenile gang activities as the major cause of the jam which has discouraged attorneys and disgusted witnesses—some of whom have been called back as often as five times—Judge Brown said that insufficient personnel was a contributing factor.

More judges in the Juvenile Division would assist in relieving the situation, Judge Brown declared.

She said the jurists now were required to practice "forced leniency" because of a lack of training school facilities.

Judge Victor J. Di Nubile now presides in Juvenile Court by assignment from Judge Brown.

INSTITUTION SHORTAGE

She explained two judges have been sitting regularly in the Juvenile Division with sometimes an additional one sitting for a few days. Judge Brown also has heard juvenile cases to keep the mounting backlog from swamping the court.

The jurist pointed out there was no place to send a child under 15 unless that child was sufficiently retarded to be sent to Pennhurst and added that there was a long waiting list even in those cases.

This lack of institutions causes the court to place a large number of delinquents on probation, adding to the responsibility of field probation officers, who already are so heavily loaded with cases they cannot closely supervise the probationers. Inquirer

LACK OF FOSTER HOMES

Another great lack, she said, was of foster homes to care for some of the delinquent children. Private agencies which do the foster-home placements report difficulty in finding proper facilities for delinquents, she added. P. 8

Concerning the Youth Study Center the jurist commented that she believed it was run "excellently," but added it was overcrowded and lacked sufficient personnel.

"We have close cooperation and are well aware of each other's problems and feel the present setup is an excellent one," she said.

SOME KEPT IN PRISON

She pointed out that the overcrowding results in the detention of 16- and 17-year-olds in places like Moyamensing Prison in order to make room at the Center for younger children.

"I deplore having 16-year-olds kept in county prison because of lack of space," she declared, and agreed with the recommendation of Dr. E. Preston Sharp, executive director of the Center, for another detention building to eliminate the need for sending juveniles to Moyamensing.

SIX-MONTH DELAYS

The jurist noted delays as long as six months before some cases were listed for trial in the Juvenile Division because of the priority for detention cases. Additional delays result when some of the child defendants cannot be located or when complainants or witnesses fail to appear.

On the other hand, some attorneys said the big problem was "too much duplication" that could easily be eliminated. They complained they had cases waiting since last December and January.

Others claimed the preliminary hearings conducted at the Youth Study Center were illegal because an examiner, who is an ordinary layman without legal training, is set up as a judge to make the decision whether a defendant should be released in custody or placed in detention pending court appearance.

23 1956

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tenn.
Dec. 1, 1956

NEGRO BOY SEIZED

He Confesses Rifling Of Newspaper Boxes

A 15-year-old Negro boy has been turned over to Juvenile Court, accused of pilfering seven downtown boxes in which copies of The Commercial Appeal are sold.

The youngster was arrested at 143 Beale at 2:30 yesterday morning when police noticed an alarm clock dangling from his belt. The oversized "pocket watch" was adorned with a $10.95 price tag from Goldsmith's, and the youngster had $2.73 in small change in his pocket. He admitted the thefts, Detective Chief M. A. Hinds said.

23 1956 VIRGINIA

Fairfax County delinquency rate is lower among colored

Afro American P. 18

WASHINGTON

"We don't compile records by race, but I would say we do not have as much delinquency among colored juveniles as among the white. Most of our trouble comes from teenagers around congested shopping centers.

"We don't have problems like that in the colored communities."

Capt. G. L. Wells, chief of detectives of the Fairfax County Police, was talking, Monday about his department's effective work in the decrease of delinquency in the sprawling suburban Virginia area.

* * *

THE CAPTAIN said most of the juvenile problems are handled by his two-man bureau of Dets. George Rath and R. H. Letser. He said the officers have been speaking before colored and white community groups on the teenage situation.

"We have just two juvenile officers and they work with the colored and white children. We put the colored on individual reports but we don't issue any reports by race. We don't see the need for it." The detective captain stated.

The Virginia department's action is in contrast to the District Metropolitan Police Department which issues periodic reports of criminal action by age and racial groups.

12-8-56

FAIRFAX COUNTY has an estimated population of 175,000 persons with less than 10 percent of the people colored.

Most of the latter group are centered in the communities of Falls Church, Vienna, Merrifield, Herndon, Chesterbrook, Gum Spring, Bailey's Crossroad, Mt. Pleasant and Fairfax.

Captain Wells said drag races among "hot rod" motor car fanciers and vandalism of mushrooming shopping centers had been one of the big juvenile problems, but much of it has been curtailed in recent months.

* * *

"IN THE COLORED communities about the only thing we get is a little petty larcenies and housebreakings. There isn't too much for them to do," the chief said.

Dr. E. B. Henderson, former District School recreation official and community leader in the county, agreed with the chief's statements on the problem.

"Surprisingly enough, we really don't have too much of a problem here although there are more recreational facilities for the white than there are for colored children.

* * *

"THERE IS only one part-time playground supervisor for the whole county for colored facilities.

Dr. Henderson said the only serious crime involving teenagers in the community in recent years was conviction of four youths for criminal assault of two women in a wooded park area.

"They got off with light sentences of 22 years because the officials realized there are not enough recreational facilities for our children. It may become a real problem, however, if something isn't done about it soon.

"Fairfax is becoming a big city," the former recreational leader declared.